



PUBLIC NOTICE

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WIRELESS TELECOMMUNICATIONS BUREAU TO COMPLETE CONVERSION OF MDS, MMDS, AND ITFS SERVICES TO THE UNIVERSAL LICENSING SYSTEM, FEBRUARY 17, 2004

The Wireless Telecommunications Bureau (WTB) is continuing a multi-phase transition of the Multipoint Distribution Service (MDS), Multichannel Multipoint Distribution Service (MMDS), and Instructional Television Fixed Service (ITFS) from the Broadband Licensing System (BLS) to the Universal Licensing System (ULS).¹ On February 17, 2004, the WTB will begin use of ULS for most licensing activity relating to the ITFS/MDS/MMDS (here forth MDS/ITFS) services, including the following:

- Easy access to filing applications online through ULS for updating name, address, and contact information, requesting a duplicate license, canceling a license, renewing a license, and withdrawing pending applications,
- Searching license and application data in ULS,
- Viewing and printing copies of applications, and
- Mapping licenses and applications.

On or about March 1, 2004, several other ULS features will become available for ITFS/MDS applicants, including:

- printing unofficial license reference copies and
- MDS/ITFS service-specific search page in ULS License Search.

Please Note: Although MDS/ITFS data is being converted into ULS, the rules contained in Part 1, Subpart F of the Commission's Rules do not apply to MDS/ITFS at this time. Instead, MDS is regulated under Part 21 of the Commission's Rules, and ITFS is regulated under Parts 73 and 74 of the Commission's Rules.

¹ See Memorandum Opinion and Order, DA02-3371 (rel Dec 5, 2002); New Searches for MDS/ITFS Data to be Presented, *Public Notice*, DA 03-645 (WTB rel Mar 6, 2003); The New MDS/ITFS License Search Interface Will Be Deployed March 17, 2003, *Public Notice*, DA 03-792 (WTB rel Mar 14, 2003); New Public Access Files For MDS/ITFS Application Data Will Be Deployed On August 19, 2003, *Public Notice*, DA 03-2693 (WTB rel Aug 19, 2003); and The New MDS/ITFS Application Search Interface Will Be Deployed August 18, 2003, *Public Notice*, DA 03-2686 (WTB rel Aug 18, 2003).

I. Status of Conversion of Data into ULS

Effective February 17, 2004, all TULS (Temporary Universal Licensing System) application and license data will be moved to ULS. TULS will no longer be available. In addition, application data for Certification of Construction, requests for Additional Time to Construct a Radio Station, and requests to Renew a Station Authorization will be made available in ULS.

The BLS database will be maintained as a historical database for research purposes only. The Public will continue to have access to query the historical data that resides in BLS. Access the ITFS & MDS Licensing homepage at <http://wireless.fcc.gov/services/itfs&mds/licensing/index.html>, then choose the "Historic BLS Database" link to search historic BLS records.

License Data

The public may query all existing MDS/ITFS license data through the ULS License Search. (Choose **Search/Licenses** on the ULS homepage, <http://wireless.fcc.gov/uls> .)

Application Data available upon deployment

The public may query most application data through the ULS Application Search. (Choose **Search/Applications** on the ULS homepage, <http://wireless.fcc.gov/uls> .) If the application was submitted manually (via paper copy), or filed electronically with an attachment, a facsimile of the accompanying form and/or attachment will be viewable with the application in ULS Application Search.

Applications filed in ULS for the ITFS/MDS services will appear on the weekly Public Notices issued by ULS as for other radio services.

Note: Existing paper copies of licenses and applications will continue to be available in the Public Reference room of the FCC. However, applications received after February 17, 2004, that are entered into ULS will not be added to this archive.

APPLICATION DATA NOT YET SCHEDULED FOR ULS AVAILABILITY:

Assignment and Transfer Filings: The Commission has not yet scheduled the deployment of Assignment of Authorization and Transfer of Control applications in the MDS/ITFS services in ULS; however, these filings will continue to be posted to the WTB Weekly Transfer & Assignment Public Notice. When Assignment or Transfer applications are granted, all affected licenses will be updated accordingly in ULS and a copy of the filed Assignment or Transfer will be available to view as an Attachment to the License.

Special Temporary Authority: Requests for Special Temporary Authority (STA) must be filed manually and will not be converted to ULS at this time.

Licensee Qualification Reports, FCC Form 430: These reports must be filed manually and will not be converted to ULS at this time.

Note: Paper copies of STAs, Form 430 and Transfer and Assignment filings will continue to be made available in the Public Reference Room of the FCC.

II. Electronic Filing in ULS

As part of the transition from BLS to ULS, WTB suspended all electronic filing of applications for MDS/ITFS services in BLS on October 11, 2002.² However, filing of certain applications in these services, as specified in this Public Notice, will be made available and are encouraged in ULS.

Beginning February 17, 2004, applicants and licensees in the MDS/ITFS services will be able to use ULS for electronic filing for requests to Renew a station authorization. In addition, licensees and applicants will be afforded new electronic filing options that are currently available to other ULS filers such as online filing for a Duplicate authorization, Cancellation of an authorization, Administrative updates, and requests to Withdraw pending applications.

Important!! Electronic Renewal applications must be accompanied by an attachment(s) containing the completed manual form and any additional information required by the manual **form**. Use the **Attachment** link in ULS License Manager to upload your attachment.

ULS filings are submitted by selecting the **Online Filing** button on the ULS homepage, <http://wireless.fcc.gov>, and logging into the ULS License Manager filing environment with the applicant's FRN (FCC Registration Number) and password. FRNs are mandatory for all parties transacting business with the Commission.

Applicants may also file manually, as before, by submitting hard copy application forms or correspondence, as determined by FCC rules in these services. Filing requirements may be revised as rules regarding the Broadband Services are under review at this time.³

III. Manual Filing In ULS

At this time applicants are still required to file manually (via paper copy) on the following forms:

FCC Form 304, Application for a Multipoint Distribution Service;
FCC Form 304A, Certification of Completion of Construction for a Multipoint Distribution Service;
FCC Form 305, Application for Assignment of a Multipoint Distribution Service Authorization;

² See Wireless Telecommunications Bureau Suspends Electronic Filing for the Broadband Licensing System on October 11, 2002, *Public Notice*, DA 02-2422 (WTB PSPWD rel Sept 27, 2002)

³ See FCC 03-56, *Notice Of Proposed Rule Making And Memorandum Opinion And Order*, Initiated Comprehensive Examination of the Rules and Policies Governing the Licensing of the ITFS, MDS, and MMDS; Seek to Promote Competition, Innovation and Investment in Wireless Broadband Services, and to Promote Educational Services (rel 4/2/2003).

FCC Form 306, Application for Transfer of Control of a Multipoint Distribution Service Authorization;

FCC Form 330, Application for Authorization to Construct New or Make Changes in an Instructional Fixed Service and/or Response Station(s), or to Assign or Transfer Such Stations;

FCC Form 330A, Certification of Completion of Construction for an Instructional Television Fixed Service Station;

FCC Form 331, Application for a Multipoint Distribution Service of Instructional Television Fixed Service Modification to a Main Station, Booster Station, Response Station Hub or 125 kHz (I Channel Station);

FCC Form 430 Licensee Qualification Report for Multipoint Distribution Service;

FCC Form 701 Application for Additional Time to Construct a Radio Station;

Correspondence for Special Temporary Authority, Requests for Additional Time to Construct an **ITFS** Radio Station, or any other type of filing that is not required by a specified FCC Form.

Note: MDS/ITFS Applicants are currently not required to file applications for Additional Time to Construct a Radio Station.⁴

Note: While electronic filing is not mandatory in these Radio Services, applicants may opt to continue to file manually (via paper copy) on the following forms:

FCC Form 330R, Application for Renewal of Instructional Television Fixed Station and/or Response Station(s) and Low Power Relay Station(s) License;

FCC Form 405, Application for Renewal of Radio Station License in Specified Services;

Correspondence for Change of Name, Address or Contact information, Cancellation request, Withdrawal of a Pending Application or request for a Duplicate authorization.

Note: When the Commission Returns or Dismisses an application, the applicant will be notified by correspondence, but a copy of the application will not be included with the correspondence. To view a copy of the original application, search by file number in ULS Application Search from the ULS homepage <<http://wireless.fcc.gov>>

IV. Other Changes in ULS Integration

⁴ See Amendment of Parts 1, 21, 73, 74 and 101 of the Commission's Rules to Facilitate the Provision of Fixed and Mobile Broadband Access, Educational and Other Advanced Services in the 2150-2162 and 2400-2690 MHz Bands; Part 1 of the Commission's Rules- Further Competitive Bidding Procedures; Amendment of Parts 21 and 74 to Enable Multipoint Distribution Service and the Instructional Television Fixed Service Amendment of Parts 21 and 74 to Engage in Fixed Two-Way Transmissions; Amendment of Parts 21 and 74 of the Commission's Rules With Regard to Licensing in the Multipoint Distribution Service and in the Instructional Television Fixed Service for the Gulf of Mexico; WT Docket Nos. 03-66, 02-67, 02-68, MM, Docket No. 97-217, Notice of Proposed Rulemaking and Memorandum Opinion and Order, 18 FCC Red 6722, 6805 {paragraph mark} 201 (2003).

- FRN – New for MDS/ITFS filers: To submit filings pertaining to a license in ULS, the license must be “associated” with an FRN. Most MDS/ITFS licenses were automatically associated with an FRN at the time of conversion. However, if your licenses do not appear in ULS License Manager when you login with your FRN, you must associate your licenses with your FRN. Use the CORES/Call Sign link on the ULS homepage <<http://wireless.fcc.gov/uls>>.
- Radio Service Codes – The two-letter radio service codes used by the Commission to define these services will remain VX for the ITFS service and MD for the MDS and MMDS services in ULS. However, Commercial ITFS will no longer be listed as an MD Radio Service. In ULS, Commercial ITFS services will use the VX Radio Service Code.
- Call Signs –All new call signs authorized to MDS/ITFS applicants will be systematically issued in ULS. The call sign for hub or booster stations will no longer be assigned the main station call sign with a suffix. Each hub or booster station will have its own unique call sign.
- Fac ID Numbers – Facility Identification numbers of existing licenses and pending applications have been converted to ULS. However, Facility ID numbers will no longer be assigned in these services. WTB recommends you search by FCC call sign or Application File Number in ULS Searches.
- EIRP – Effective Isotropic Radiated Power (EIRP) values in BLS and TULS are displayed in dBw; EIRP values in ULS follow the ULS standard format of dBm. Applicants are reminded that Broadband applications collect EIRP in dBw and will continue to do so. Applicants may elect to provide this data in dBm, but their application must clearly indicate beside the EIRP value that the power is reflected in dBm.
- NAD – Latitude and Longitude coordinate values in BLS and TULS are displayed in North American Datum (NAD) 27 and 83. Upon conversion to ULS, all MDS/ITFS data will be displayed in NAD 83. Applicants are reminded that all Broadband applications collect NAD 27 except FCC Form 331, which collects NAD 83. These application forms are not being revised at this time and applicants should continue to provide the format requested in the form for new and modified stations. The WTB will convert any NAD 27 coordinates before the data is entered into ULS. Applicants may elect to provide all coordinate values in NAD83, but their application must clearly indicate beside every set of coordinates that the format provided is NAD 83.
- In ULS, modifications will update the license immediately upon grant of the modification application. If a licensee fails to construct a modification, the licensee must notify the Commission in writing to restore the license to its previous parameters.

For more information on the subjects covered in this public notice, contact the FCC.

FCC Technical Support Hotline: Contact the Technical Support Hotline with questions concerning

- computer access to ULS,
- FCC Registration Number (FRN),
- password resets,

- file uploads, or
- submitting attachments.

Technical Support may be reached via the web at <http://esupport.fcc.gov>, or telephone at 877-480-3201 (TTY 202-414-1255). Hours are from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday (except Federal holidays).

ULS Licensing Support and Forms Information: Contact Licensing Support with questions about

- application purpose(s),
- FCC forms or schedules, or
- other wireless service related licensing matters.

ULS Licensing Support is available via email at ulshelp@fcc.gov or telephone at 888-CALLFCC (225-5322), Option 2, or 717-338-2888. Hours are from 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday (except Federal holidays).

To provide quality service and ensure security, all telephone calls are recorded.